

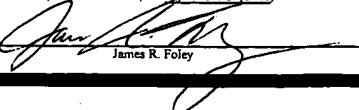


PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 10/692,183)
Filed: October 23, 2003)
For: ROTARY BELT STERILIZER)
Applicant: Minoru Masuda and Yoshio Suzuki)
Attorney Ref: 501/41430/Case 96)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 10, 2003.



James R. Foley

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with Applicant's duty of candor under 37 CFR §1.56 and in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98, Applicant is not aware of any material prior art but, in an abundance of caution and candor, Applicant submits the present Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO-1449.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date and before the receipt of a first Office Action on the merits and constitutes a bona fide attempt to comply with 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97, the presentation of this information shall not be construed as a representation that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56 exists, or as an admission that the information cited in this statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

The cited reference is not in English. JP 3004588 is relevant in that it discloses a sterilizing rotary belt.

Should the Examiner believe a fee is required, the United States Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized and requested to charge the fee to the deposit account of the undersigned firm, Account No. 20-1495.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 10, 2003

By: 

Richard A. Giangiorgi, Reg. No. 24,284

James R. Foley, Reg. No. 30,979

TREXLER, BUSHNELL, GIANGIORGI,

BLACKSTONE & MARR, LTD.

105 W. Adams Street, 36th Floor

Chicago, Illinois 60603

(312) 704-1890



Form PTO-
(Rev. 2-83)

DEC 15 2003

Sheet 1 of 1

***EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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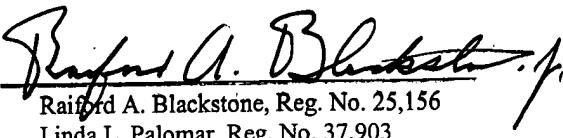
DATE CONSIDERED

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Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Dec 10, 2003

By:


Raiford A. Blackstone, Reg. No. 25,156

Linda L. Palomar, Reg. No. 37,903

TREXLER, BUSHNELL, GIANGIORGI,
BLACKSTONE & MARR, LTD.

105 W. Adams Street, 36th Floor

Chicago, Illinois 60603

(312) 704-1890